

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 5593, the Congressional Review Act Improvement Act, would cut government waste by reducing duplicative paperwork and relieving some of the administrative burdens currently mandated by the Congressional Review Act, the congressional mechanism for reviewing agency rules.

The Congressional Review Act requires that all agencies promulgating a rule submit to both Houses of Congress and to the Comptroller General a report that contains a copy of the rule, a concise general statement describing the rule, and the proposed effective date of the rule. Thus, under current law, the same material is submitted to, housed in, and printed by four different governmental entities. This approach creates unnecessary burdens. For example, the House Parliamentarian has testified before the Subcommittee on Administration of the Judiciary Committee in three separate Congresses about the ever-increasing volume of executive branch communications under the Congressional Review Act and its overwhelming impact on the operations of the Parliamentarian's office.

This legislation would eliminate the requirement that agencies submit rules to each House of Congress if they are already printed in the Federal Register. Instead, the House and Senate would receive a weekly list of all rules from the Comptroller General. The House and Senate would then have that list printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD with a statement of referral for each rule.

The bill would still require agencies to submit rules and reports to each House of Congress that were not printed in the Federal Register, and Congress could still employ the procedures in the Congressional Review Act to disapprove agency rules.

H.R. 5593 was introduced by Commercial and Administrative Law Subcommittee Chair LINDA SANCHEZ, along with Judiciary Committee Chairman JOHN CONYERS. They were joined by Ranking Member LAMAR SMITH and Subcommittee Ranking Member CHRIS CANNON as original cosponsors. This bill has bipartisan support, and makes a lot of sense. I would urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Congressional Review Act provides Congress with a vital tool to oversee how agencies exercise their legislative authority Congress delegates to them.

The act has a great deal of promise, but unfortunately is used too little. Republicans on the Judiciary Committee have worked long, hard, and in a bipartisan fashion to help identify ways in which we can prompt its better use. Today, we begin the process of improving the act with one of those measures. H.R. 5593 streamlines the act's processing requirements, lightening the burden on the House Parliamentarian's office.

This is a measure first proposed in the 106th Congress by our much loved, revered, and respected former chairman, the late Henry Hyde. It had bipartisan support then as it does today, Mr. Speaker.

I applaud the House's consideration of this bill, and I hope that its swift enactment is but the first of key improvements we can make so that the act is both more efficient and more effective.

I urge its adoption.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5593, the "Congressional Review Improvement Act." I am proud to join my colleagues in cosponsoring this timely legislation. I would like to thank my colleague, Congresswoman LINDA SANCHEZ, for introducing this bill, and for providing leadership on this important issue.

I support this bill. It eliminates waste by minimizing the production of paper that is required to be provided to Congress. It should reduce duplicative paperwork and eliminate waste. These reduction and minimization of waste standards provided by this bill should result in a substantial cost savings to the Federal Government. In times like we are in now, it is important that the Government cut costs. I support this bill. It is a first step in cutting needless and excessive costs.

The congressional review mechanism of agency rules, known as the Congressional Review Act, CRA, requires that all agencies promulgating a rule must submit a report to both Houses of Congress and to the GAO. According to the CRA, the report must contain a copy of the rule, a concise general statement describing the rule, and the proposed effective date of the rule. A rule cannot take effect if the report is not submitted. Each House must then send a copy of the report to the chairman and the ranking member of each jurisdictional committee. The promulgating agency must then submit to the GAO: (1) a complete copy of the cost-benefit analysis; (2) a description of the agency's actions; and (3) other relevant information required under any other act or executive order. This information must also be made available to each House.

H.R. 5593 amends the current law, to reduce paperwork. The primary purpose of the legislation is to ensure that the same material is not submitted, housed, and printed at four different Government entities. H.R. 5593 eliminates the requirement that agencies submit paper copies of their rules that are printed in the Federal Register to each House while continuing a referral of all rules printed in the Federal Register and the periodic indication of

those referrals in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Instead, both the House and Senate would receive a weekly list of rules from the GAO and then the House and Senate would put that list in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

This bill eliminates the excessive duplication and printing of rules. No longer are the rules housed at four Government agencies. Under this bill, the House would receive a weekly list of rules that would then be added to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. This bill adds a commonsense approach to rulemaking, the printing, publication and dissemination of those rules. It is simple and the reforms that it brings should yield a substantial cost savings to the U.S. Treasury.

I am proud to support this bill because it eliminates duplicative and needless paperwork and should provide a cost savings. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, once again, I urge adoption of this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ZOE LOFGREN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5593, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### SALUTING THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF THE LATE BO DIDDLEY

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1251) saluting the life and music of the late Otha Ellas "Bo Diddley" Bates, guitar virtuoso and rock and roll pioneer, whose music continues to influence generations of musicians.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 1251

Whereas Bo Diddley, a founder of the rock and roll genre, helped to reshape the sound of popular music worldwide by melding blues, Southern gospel, rhythm and blues, and African American culture into a new genre that continues to influence popular music to this day;

Whereas Bo Diddley was born as Otha Ellas Bates on December 30, 1928, in McComb, Mississippi, grew up on the South Side of Chicago, studied classical violin from the age of 7 through the age of 15, and, strongly influenced by the music of John Lee Hooker, started playing the guitar at the age of 12;

Whereas Otha Ellas Bates adopted "Bo Diddley" as his stage name while performing on the South Side of Chicago;

Whereas Bo Diddley reshaped the sound of popular music, recording such tracks as "Bo Diddley" and "I'm A Man", both becoming number 1 hits;

Whereas Bo Diddley's career spanned several decades, spawning hits such as "Who Do You Love", "Mona", "Crackin' Up", "Say, Man", and "Road Runner";

Whereas Bo Diddley and his famous "Bo Diddley beat" has influenced, and continues

to influence, generations of musicians, from Buddy Holly and Elvis Presley to The Rolling Stones, The Clash, Bruce Springsteen, The Smiths, U2, and The Beatles;

Whereas Bo Diddley was a loving father to his 4 children and is survived by 15 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and 3 great-great-grandchildren;

Whereas Bo Diddley, in his later years, toured with Joe Strummer and The Clash, as well as playing at the inaugurations of Presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton;

Whereas Bo Diddley was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987, won a Lifetime Achievement Grammy in 1998, and was inducted into the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences Hall of Fame as a musician of lasting historical importance; and

Whereas, with the death of Bo Diddley on June 2, 2008, at his home in Archer, Florida, the Nation has lost one of its most influential rock and roll and blues guitarists: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) honors the life and contributions of Bo Diddley;

(2) recognizes and honors Bo Diddley for his invaluable contributions to American culture;

(3) recommits itself to ensuring that musical artists such as Bo Diddley receive fair protection under the copyright laws for their contributions to American culture; and

(4) extends condolences to his family on the death of this remarkable and talented man.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ZOE LOFGREN) and the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. KING) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

□ 1600

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today we honor the life and musical legacy of Bo Diddley, a founding father of rock and roll, a guitarist who has influenced generations of musicians, who no doubt will continue to do so for generations to come.

This resolution was introduced by the chairman of the full Judiciary Committee, Mr. CONYERS, who was unable to be here in time to present it himself.

I am honored to note that Bo Diddley was born Otha Ellas Bates in the small town of McComb, Mississippi. He moved as a young boy to Chicago, where he initially studied classical violin. But at age 12, he heard John Lee Hooker play "Boogie Chillen" and found his true calling, the electric guitar.

He got the nickname, by which he will ever be known, as a teenager from a girl in his neighborhood. He said she meant it as a compliment to his boxing skill.

After years playing music with friends on the South Side of Chicago, first on street corners, later at the 708 Club, Bo Diddley and his band made their first record in 1955.

Vee-Jay Records had turned them down, who said the music was just too strange. But they walked across the street to Chess, who signed them up on the spot. The song, titled "Bo Diddley," became an instant hit, reaching number 2 on the charts.

Later that year, he was invited to perform on TV on the Ed Sullivan Show. For some reason, Ed Sullivan chose to have him play a Tennessee Ernie Ford song, "16 Tons." Bo Diddley didn't know that song. So the show's crew spent 2 hours playing him the record and rehearsing it with him and made cue cards with the lyrics for him.

But what the audience got to hear that night was "Bo Diddley." And when the show's producer asked him what went wrong, he said, "Man, maybe that was '16 Tons' on those cards, but all I saw was 'Bo Diddley.'"

Although Ed Sullivan didn't plan for it to be, that was the first rock and roll performance on TV, a year before Elvis Presley made his appearance on the show.

Bo Diddley had several other songs reach the top of the charts. He became as well known as any recording artist in America. But he contributed so much more than that, and it would be hard to overstate his importance to the music world.

He quite literally played to his own beat, actually called the "Bo Diddley beat." And to this day, that beat is a rock and roll staple. You hear it in the music of Buddy Holly, the Rolling Stones, Bruce Springsteen, and countless others.

But Bo Diddley was no mere one-beat wonder. He introduced a rich complexity of driving rhythms and cross-rhythms, building on African American traditions from the Cuban clave, to the hambone of the Chicago street, to the shout of the church.

He not only laid the cornerstone for rock and roll, he also laid the groundwork for rap music and, by mixing in elements of classical violin technique, also for funk. He was also a pioneer in the use of reverb, tremolo, sustain, distortion and feedback, all essential ingredients in heavy metal and psychedelic rock.

To help round out the Bo Diddley beat with what he called "that freight train sound," he persuaded Jerome Green to set aside the tuba and take up the maracas and added Billy Boy Arnold on the harmonica.

His band may also have been the first to feature a woman on guitar, first Peggy Jones, then known on stage as "Lady Bo," in the late 1950s, and then when she left, Norma Jean Wofford,

a.k.a. "the Duchess." He also invented two well-known guitar designs, the square guitar, and the Flying V. And he may have been the first to build his own home recording studio, right here in Washington, DC.

As the preeminent rock historian Robert Palmer observed a few years ago, and I quote, "If the musical copyright laws of the United States more accurately reflected the way American vernacular music is created and disseminated, Bo Diddley would be a wealthy man today."

But Bo Diddley never did become a wealthy man. Despite all his hard work and his invaluable cultural contributions, he had to stay on the road right up until the time a stroke forced him to retire last year at age 78. The fact that he reaped so little from all that he had sowed helped spur him in later years to become a tireless advocate for educating musicians on their rights. As he explained in a 2005 interview in *Rolling Stone* magazine, "I tell musicians 'Don't trust nobody but your mama.'" Good advice for many of us.

Mick Jagger spoke for many when he said last week that Bo Diddley was "a wonderful, original musician who was very generous to the Rolling Stones in our early years." Although Bo Diddley himself is now gone, he has left an indelible mark on American music. And this resolution is before us today to honor that uniquely American contribution to music, rock and roll.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution honoring Bo Diddley, the great guitar player and rock and roll musician.

He was born Ellas Otha Bates, but he came to be known by the nickname Bo Diddley. It came to be an ironic nickname indeed, and refers to "nothing at all," as in, "he ain't bo diddly," or in my neighborhood, "you don't know bo diddly."

Well, far from becoming nothing at all, Bo Diddley started playing in Chicago's South Side and rose to become one of the greatest rock and roll musicians of all time. His song "Bo Diddley" became a number one rhythm and blues hit as far back as 1955. Through songs such as "Who Do You Love," he established the now famous Bo Diddley beat, a rumba like sound that mimics the sounds made by street musicians who would pat beats to songs by slapping their arms, legs, chest and cheeks.

Bo Diddley headlined above the Rolling Stones. He appeared with the Clash and the Grateful Dead and wrote many crossover hits that appealed to music lovers everywhere. And he was one of the first major male musicians to include a woman in his band.

He was inducted in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987. In 1996, he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Rhythm and Blues Foundation, and in 1998 from the Grammy

Awards. Rolling Stone magazine listed him at Number 20 on their list of the Greatest Artists of All Time.

When Bo Diddley passed away on June 2 at the age of 79, he was surrounded by his friends and family, who sang the gospel song "Walk Around Heaven."

Mr. Speaker, I never knew Bo Diddley, but I know he touched my life and that of all of us. Walk around heaven, indeed, Bo Diddley.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. \_\_\_\_\_

"A resolution regarding the passing of Bo Diddley." I am proud to join my colleagues in cosponsoring this timely legislation. I would like to thank my colleague, Chairman CONYERS of the Judiciary Committee, for introducing this bill, and for providing leadership on this important issue.

Bo Diddley was a musician par excellence. He was a singer, guitarist, songwriter, music pioneer, and actor.

He was born December 30, 1928, and recently passed on June 2, 2008. He was an American rock and roll singer. In fact, he was the progenitor of the genre. He was a guitarist, songwriter, and more. He was the key figure that transitioned from blues to rock and roll. Bo Diddley gave America hard rhythms, hard guitar, and his characteristic rectangular guitar.

He was born in McComb, Mississippi, as Ellas Otha Bates. He was adopted and raised by his mother's cousin, Gussie McDaniel, whose surname he assumed, becoming Ellas McDaniel.

His family moved to Chicago when he was the tender age of seven. There, he took violin lessons, but was inspired to become a guitarist after seeing John Lee Hooker.

He worked as a carpenter, mechanic, and began his musical career with his friends in the 40s and 50s. In 1955, he released his #1 R&B hit, called "Bo Diddley."

He appeared on The Ed Sullivan Show on November 20, 1955. During that appearance, he sang his hit "Bo Diddley." He continued to have hits through the late 1950s and the 1960s. In 1963, he starred in a U.K. concert tour with the Everly Brothers and Little Richard. The Rolling Stones, still unknown at that time, appeared much lower on the same bill. He would play with the Rolling Stones years later in 1979. He would play with the Grateful Dead, The Clash. His music was covered by countless American musicians ranging from Elvis Presley, Bruce Springsteen, U2, The Who, The Police, David Bowie, George Michael, and the Animals, to name a few. His music is timeless.

Diddley's song "Who Do You Love" can be heard in the intro credits to the movie *La Bamba*. He appeared on a 2003 episode of the sitcom *According to Jim* entitled "Bo Diddley," had a small role in the film *Trading Places*, starring Eddie Murphy and Dan Aykroyd, and appeared in George Thorogood's "Bad to the Bone" video. The song "Bad to the Bone" is a rework of Diddley's "I'm A Man." Eric Clapton's 1992 "Unplugged" included a cover of Diddley's "Before you accuse me."

On his music Bo Diddley once said "I don't like to copy anybody. Everybody tries to do what I do, update it," he is quoted as telling the Associated Press. "I don't have any idols I copied after."

"They copied everything I did, upgraded it, messed it up. It seems to me that nobody can come up with their own thing, they have to put a little bit of Bo Diddley there," he said.

He has left an indelible mark on American music. The founder of rock and roll. He was a tremendous musician and he had over a half-century of experience in the music business. He was a mastermind, a genius, he was Bo Diddley. We honor him and his tremendous contribution to American music. Heaven is a sweeter place now that Bo Diddley is there. And, the angels are surely singing.

Mr. KING of Iowa. I urge adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of H. Res. 1251 and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SRES). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ZOE LOFGREN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1251.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### NATIONAL SAFETY MONTH

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1225) expressing support for designation of June 2008 as "National Safety Month".

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

#### H. RES. 1225

Whereas, after years of decline, the rate of unintentional injuries and deaths in the United States has risen to new and unacceptable levels;

Whereas deaths from motor vehicle collisions, poisonings from unintentional overdoses, and falls remain as the three leading causes of preventable death in the United States;

Whereas the cost of unintentional injuries to Americans exceeds \$650,000,000,000 each year and causes great suffering among individuals and their families;

Whereas the cost of unintentional injuries to workers and their employers is \$164,700,000,000 each year, including the value of 120,000,000 days of lost productivity;

Whereas preventing unintentional injury and death requires the cooperation of all levels of government, the Nation's employers, and the general public;

Whereas the National Safety Council, founded in 1913, was congressionally chartered in 1953 to lead this Nation in injury prevention through safety and health education, training, and advocacy in the United States;

Whereas the National Safety Council educates the workforce about policies, practices, and procedures leading to increased safety, protection, and health in business and industry, as well as in schools and colleges, on roads and highways, and in homes and communities;

Whereas since the summer season is a time of increased rates of preventable injuries and death, it is an appropriate time to focus the attention of our workforce and community

leaders on injury risks and preventions by celebrating June 2008 as "National Safety Month"; and

Whereas the National Safety Council in 2008 as part of its public education about safety and health will provide this Nation a monthlong campaign in June with the theme "Make a Difference": Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the United States House of Representatives—

(1) supports the designation of "National Safety Month";

(2) recognizes the contributions of the National Safety Council and its ongoing commitment to raising awareness about the need for the implementation of safe practices in our schools and jobs; and

(3) encourages citizens to observe the "National Safety Month" with appropriate ceremonies and educate themselves about the importance of implementing safe practices in our schools and on our jobs to prevent unintentional injury and death.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. YARMUTH) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. KUHLMANN) each will control 20 minutes. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on H. Res. 1225 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1225, which recognizes the month of June as National Safety Month and commends the National Safety Council for their ongoing mission to educate and influence the public on the prevention of accidental injury and death.

In 1912 the National Safety Council was established by a small group of midwestern industrial leaders concerned about safety in the workplace. Since then, the council has broadened its scope to include the home, transportation and the community. Its membership has grown to over 18,000 companies spanning more than 33,000 locations. Altogether, the council represents 8.3 million employees across the Nation.

In 1953, a congressional charter was granted to the National Safety Council to lead the country in injury prevention through safety education and training. The council has had a great impact on the local level by providing a variety of community-based programs and services, including workshops, training, conferences, and by providing a local voice for safety and health education.

Through the efforts of the National Safety Council, more than 8.5 million rescuers have been trained and more than 60 million people have taken one of the NSC's defensive driving courses. It is obvious that the National Safety Council's programs have had a profound effect on our Nation, and they